

## IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-2 (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 9, wherein establishing a secure connection comprises establishing a connection using Secure Shell.

Claims 4-6 (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 9, wherein sending comprises sending the string from the remote probe to the monitored digital processing system through the secure connection.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 8;~~ A method, comprising:  
connecting at least one remote monitoring digital processing system to at least one monitored digital processing system, wherein connecting comprises establishing a secure connection between the remote digital processing system and the monitored digital processing system; and

executing at least one diagnostic program from the remote monitoring digital processing system to run a command on the monitored system to generate diagnostic information relating to the monitored digital processing system, wherein executing comprises:

constructing, within a remote probe residing on the remote monitoring digital processing system, at least one string containing at least one command to be run on the monitored digital processing system;

sending the string from the remote monitoring digital processing system to the monitored digital processing system; and

running the command on the monitored digital processing system, wherein running the command comprises running the command within a daemon residing on the monitored digital processing system.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the daemon is a Secure Shell daemon.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~5~~ 9, further comprising collecting within the remote monitoring digital processing system the diagnostic information relating to the monitored digital processing system.

12. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:  
establishing a secure connection between a remote digital processing system and a monitored digital processing system;

executing at least one diagnostic program on the remote digital processing system to generate diagnostic information relating to the monitored digital processing system by constructing within a remote probe residing on the remote monitoring digital processing system at least one string containing at least one command to be run on the monitored digital processing system; and

collecting within the remote probe residing on the remote monitoring digital processing system the diagnostic information relating to the monitored digital processing system.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~11~~ 12, further comprising interpreting within the remote monitoring digital processing system the diagnostic information.

14. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:  
establishing a secure connection between a remote digital processing system and a monitored digital processing system;

executing at least one diagnostic program on the remote digital processing system to generate diagnostic information relating to the monitored digital processing system by

constructing within a remote probe residing on the remote monitoring digital processing system at least one string containing at least one command to be run on the monitored digital processing system;

collecting within the remote monitoring digital processing system the diagnostic information relating to the monitored digital processing system; and

interpreting within the remote probe residing on the remote monitoring digital processing system the diagnostic information.

Claims 15-21 (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 21, further comprising~~ An apparatus, comprising:

a scheduler residing on a remote monitoring digital processing system;

a command residing on the remote monitoring digital processing system to execute a diagnostic program within the remote monitoring system, wherein the command is operatively coupled with the scheduler; and

a monitored digital processing system coupled with the remote monitoring digital processing system; and

a daemon residing on the monitored digital processing system.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the daemon is a Secure Shell daemon.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~19~~ 22, further comprising a UNIX operating system running on the remote monitoring digital processing system.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~19~~ 22, wherein the monitored digital processing system is coupled with the remote monitoring digital processing system through a secure connection.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the secure connection is a Secure Shell connection.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 25, further comprising at least one string to be sent from the command to the monitored digital processing system through the secure connection, the string containing at least one command to be run on the monitored digital processing system to generate diagnostic information relating to the monitored digital processing system.

Claims 28-31 (Canceled)